



News Release

Arizona Department of Public Safety

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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IIMPACT Unit Detectives Conduct Investigation into Kidnapping/Extortion and Rescues the Victims Being Held Against Their Will

On Saturday, May 10, 2008 Detectives from the Illegal Immigration Prevention & Apprehension CO-op Team (IIMPACT) conducted an investigation into the kidnapping and extortion of several undocumented aliens and were successful in locating and apprehending the suspects and most important locating and rescuing the victims.

The IIMPACT Detectives received a request and from the Phoenix Police Department to assist with locating the kidnapped victims. The investigation began around 10:00 AM and through intelligence gathering and surveillance conducted by the IIMPACT personnel, additional information was uncovered that the kidnapped victims were being held with force, against their will by the suspects (coyotes) to obtain additional money at an average of \$2,500 each. The investigation went well into the late evening hours when further information was obtained that located three of the suspects at a Days Inn motel located near 52nd Avenue and McDowell. Phoenix Police Department Special Assignment Unit personnel (PPD SAU) conducted entry at the hotel rooms and apprehended the initial three suspects.

The investigation continued and Detectives obtained the location where the victims were believed to be held which was at an address of 9618 West Kingman in Phoenix. The residence is located in a fairly new housing sub-division in Southwest Phoenix. The residence had two bedrooms and a bathroom that had been fortified to prevent the escape of the individuals being held.

Around 1:00 AM on Sunday morning, the PPD SAU personnel conducted entry at that residence (single story-single family design) and found approximately 53 undocumented aliens, including the initial victims that were the focus of the investigation and apprehended two additional suspects. Among the group being held were two 13 year-old females and three adult females. One of the adult age male individuals had the mental capacity of a young child. Also several firearms were seized consisting of a .44 caliber revolver and a .40 caliber semi-auto pistol.

Suspects: Jesus Nunez - DOB 12/23/1989; Yolanda Martinez-Garcia - DOB 01/03/1987; Anil Solis-Romero – DOB 07/21/1984; Porfirio Felix-Reyes – DOB 09/15/1982; Vianney O. Terron DOB – 10/01/1985, all residents of Mexico. The suspects will be charged with Extortion, Kidnapping, Aggravated Assault and Human Smuggling, all major felony crimes. The suspects will be interviewed and later booked into the Fourth Avenue Jail. The 53 remaining individuals were turned over to DHS Immigration and Customs Enforcement personnel.

One photo of the group of undocumented aliens is attached.

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IIMPACT is composed of the Phoenix Police Department (PPD), U.S. Department of Homeland Security Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Arizona Fraudulent Identification Task Force (AFIT) and the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS). IIMPACT was formed over a year ago and is a project managed by the Gang Immigration and Intelligence Team Enforcement Mission (GIITEM), a multi-agency task force administered by the Arizona Department of Public Safety. IIMPACT was designed to investigate crimes involving extreme violence; such as kidnap, rape, homicide, assault, extortion, home invasions, hi-jacking and the overall disregard for human life associated with the serious problems of human smuggling. The overall goal of IIMPACT is to make Arizona communities safer by deterring, disrupting and dismantling the human smuggling criminal organizations through the apprehension and prosecution of those involved.

<http://www.azdps.gov/iimpact/>